STATE SENATOR · GILDA Z. JACOBS · 14TH DISTRICT

Jacobs Press Release

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JACOBS LAUDS GOVERNOR'S SIGNING OF CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY ACT

Jacobs: "Newly signed act will promote public improvements while encouraging historic preservation."

LANSING – Sen. Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) today applauded Governor Jennifer Granholm's long-awaited signing of Senate Bill 34. The Jacobs legislation, now known as PA280, creates the Corridor Improvement Authority Act, which will allow older communities with business areas in need of restoration to obtain the economic development tools to make the necessary improvements, which in turn will help retain and attract good paying jobs.

"It's often difficult for older municipalities to invest in the new streets, lighting, parking and sidewalks that would help turn these areas around," Sen. Gilda Jacobs said. "The Corridor Authority Improvement Act will provide communities an economic development tool to fund public improvements within a defined business district."

The Authority will use tax increment financing to fund redevelopment efforts, similar to Downtown Development Authorities (DDAs). However, while only one DDA is allowed per community, multiple Corridor Improvement Acts can be established for different targeted commercial areas, subject to certain requirements.

Corridor Improvement Authorities operate under the direction of the chief executive of the community and an appointed board, the majority of which are property or business owners in the designated development area. This assures that each authority is uniquely tailored by the community for the community's individual needs. The board is also responsible for the long-term development, implementation, and monitoring of the improvements.

"This approach not only provides the economic stimulus for redevelopment, but encourages a community team approach to those efforts," Jacobs said.